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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/562,798

12/29/2005

Toru Maeda

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8704

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EXAMINER

HARRIS, GARY D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1785

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/03/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<p align="center">Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief</p>	<p>Application No. 10/562,798</p>	<p>Applicant(s) MAEDA ET AL.</p>	
	<p>Examiner GARY D. HARRIS</p>	<p>Art Unit 1785</p>	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 24 May 2010 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: _____.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☒ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See continuation.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information *Disclosure Statement*(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.

/Mark Ruthkosky/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1785

/G. D. H./Gary Harris
Examiner, Art Unit 1785

Continuation of 11.

Applicant argues that the oxygen as claimed does not satisfy the relationship required in the claim- being formed of an oxide of a nonferrous metal satisfying a composition range where oxygen is less than oxygen of a stoichiometric composition of a compound constituted of an element and oxygen, that constitute the lower film. Watson et al. discloses $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$. Applicant argues that Watson is using stoichiometric compositions, which is different than using less than stoichiometric compositions. However, based on applicant's disclosure, there is no evidence that applicant's position is the only interpretation for a stoichiometric composition of a compound. The only indication in the specification of a stoichiometric composition of a compound is as follows: "Even when some nonferrous metal exists in the form of an oxide, the gettering effect can be obtained when the amount of oxygen is not more than that of the stoichiometry composition. Thus, increased electric resistance can be achieved by the production of oxide by arranging for the lower film to be an oxide of a nonferrous metal satisfying the composition range where oxygen is less than that of the stoichiometry composition." One of ordinary skill in the art would interpret the stoichiometric composition of oxygen in the iron oxide (O_4) taught by Watson as being greater than the stoichiometric composition of oxygen in silica (O_2). As written, the teachings of Watson, including the materials Fe_3O_4 & SiO_2 , meet the claim limitations. The SiO_2 will have a higher affinity for oxygen and carbon than Fe_3O_4 and the stoichiometry will satisfy the claimed relationship. If there is support in the specification for applicant's argument that the compound would be $\text{SiO}_{(2-x)}$ (or some similar disclosure), adding this to the claim would support the applicant's position and overcome the art of record, however, as written in the claim and originally disclosed, it appears that the prior art reads upon the claims.